

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8, 10-19 and 21-27 are now pending. Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-8 and indication that claims 10-13, 17, 18 and 21-26 contain allowable subject matter. By this amendment, claims 10, 11, 12, 17, 21, 23 and 26 have been rewritten in independent form incorporating the limitations of the claims from which they respectfully depended. Claims 9 and 20 have been canceled to advance prosecution. The dependencies of the remaining claims have been revised accordingly.

Original claims 9, 14-16, 19-20 and 27 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Fischer et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. However, to advance prosecution, claims 9 and 20 have been canceled and the remaining claims have been revised so as to depend from an allowable claim as noted above. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejection has been mooted.

Claim 9 was also rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by Kojima. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. However, as noted above, claim 9 has been canceled to advance prosecution. It is therefore respectfully submitted that this rejection has been mooted.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

YAMADA et al
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Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



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